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Message Text

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51
ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9691

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1004

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UN CY
SUBJ: SYG'S CONSULTATIONS ON RECONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE

1. SYG HAS IN PAST TWO DAYS HELD MIDDLE EAST TOURS D'HORIZON WITH EGYPTIAN, SYRIAN, ISRAELI AND SOVIET PERM REPS, WHICH HAVE INCLUDED DISCUSSIONS ON TIMING AND MODALITIES FOR RECONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE. WALDHEIM HAS MADE NO PROPOSALS; RATHER HE HAS STRESSED THAT DECISION ON RECONVENING CONFERENCE IS RESPONSIBILITY OF CO-CHAIRMEN. USYG URQUHART TELLS US PRINCIPAL REASON WHY SYG HAS NOT TAKEN MATTER UP WITH USG IS THAT UN IS AWARE US IS IN MIDST OF INTENSIVE MIDDLE EAST REVIEW AND NOT YET READY TO DISCUSS FUTURE COURSES OF ACTION.

2. SYRIAN AMBASSADOR KELANI TRIGGERED SERIES OF TALKS BY REQUESTING MEETING WITH SYG ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT ASAD. KELANI ASKED IF SYG WOULD BE IN POSITION TO RECONVENE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN MAY. ACCORDING TO URQUHART, WHO WAS THERE, WALDHEIM REPLIED THIS WAS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE FROM LOGISTICAL STANDPOINT. HOWEVER, MORE IMPORTANT THAN PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS WAS FACT THAT IT UP TO CO-CHAIRMEN TO MAKE KNOWN THEIR VIEWS ON TIME FOR RECONVENING CONFERENCE. THEY OF COURSE HAD NOT YET DONE SO.

3. FOLLOWING THIS MEETING SYG FELT IT NECESSARY TO TALK TO EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI PERM REPS. (MALIK REQUESTED APPOINTMENT AT SAME TIME SYG ASKED TO SEE HIM.) ACCORDING TO URQUHART, EGYPTIAN AMB. MEGUID FAVORED RECONVENING GENEVA
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IN MID-MAY, THOUGH URQUHART SAYS HE CLEARLY HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS.

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MEGUID HOPED CONFERENCE WOULD BE ADEQUATELY PREPARED SO ITS RESULTS WOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE. MALIK IS SAID TO HAVE FAVORED "EARLY RECONVENING", BUT MENTIONED NO SPECIFIC DATE.

4. ISRAELI AMB. TEKOAH HAS TOLD US THAT WALDHEIM INDICATED TO HIM THAT ARAB AMBASSADORS TENDED TO FAVOR RECONVENING GENEVA "SOMETIME IN MAY." WALDHEIM IMPLIED THAT HE AGREED. SYG ADDED EXTENSION OF UNEF WAS CLEARLY LINKED TO TIMING OF GENEVA, AND CONFERENCE COULD NOT IN HIS VIEW BE UNDULY DELAYED. TEKOAH SAID HE MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DOES DEPARTMENT WISH ME TO MAKE ANY INPUT INTO THIS DIALOGUE?
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